UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

CM/ECF TRAINING GUIDE

aka

TXEB's Electronic Filing 12 Step Program To End Your Addiction To Paper



Honorable Bill Parker, Chief Bankruptcy Judge Honorable Brenda T. Rhoades, Bankruptcy Judge

Jeanne Henderson, Clerk of Court

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I. GETTING STARTED

A. Introduction

Making the choice or being forced to change is always the most difficult step toward any new beginning. This manual was written with a few basic assumptions. Surfing the internet is part of your experience. Directions are often ignored. When one does take the time, directions can be unclear, misleading, and extremely frustrating. It is the hope of those creating this manual to not only help the user, but give the user the tools to help others. Namely, future employees necessary to manage your growing bankruptcy practice. Our website is full of valuable information for anyone getting started in the electronic world. That information will not be duplicated here. This manual is designed to compliment the resources readily available to you now.

B. The 12 Step Program

- 1. Create Pleading
- 2. Print to PDF File
- 3. Log In
- 4. Case Type (BK or AP Main Menu)
- 5. Sub-Menu Categories
- 6. Case Number / Event Listing
- 7. Parties
- 8. PDF's
- 9. Related Documents (if necessary)
- 10. Modify/Confirm Docket Text
- 11. Final Review
- 12. Notice of Electronic Filing



Note: Everything created and submitted to the Court will follow the steps above.

C. The New Paradigm

Virtually everyone doing business with the Court is in the process of overcoming their addiction to paper. Paper and the oh so significant ink signature making it "legal" have been with us for a long time. The thought of replacing paper solely with electronic images is akin to learning to read from the right to the left. It simply isn't natural! Yet, as we continue into the 21st century the internet is playing a more significant role throughout the business world and governmental agencies at all levels. Our own studies show a strict adherence to the above 12 step program for 12 weeks will free anyone, regardless of the depth of one's addiction.

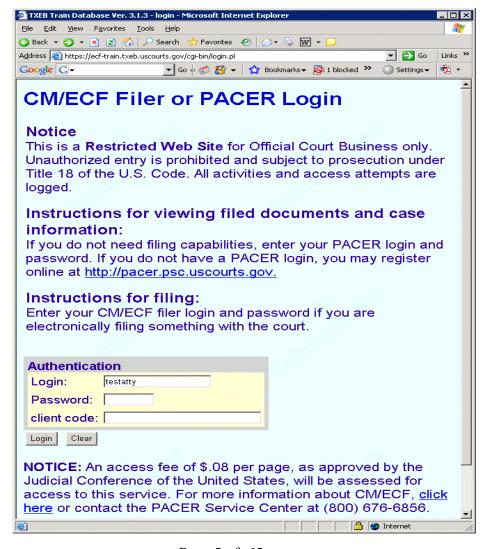
Note: The storage capacity for data of one CD-ROM is equivalent to 50,000 sheets of paper.

II. STEP BY STEP PROCEDURES

A. OPENING A NEW BANKRUPTCY CASE

Using your software, **create a petition** (Step 1) and **print/save/convert/publish to PDF** (Portable Document Format) (Step 2). **Log into** CM-ECF through our website (www.txeb.uscourts.gov) (Step 3).

Note: The following procedures can be bypassed by using a case upload function within a given software ONLY when filing the petition AND all schedules.



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(Step 4) Using the cursor, point and click on **Bankruptcy** (**Figure 1**). A drop-down menu will appear as depicted on the following page.



Figure 1

(Step 5) Below is a list of Sub-Menu Categories, each with a drop-down menu containing all events in that category (Figure 2). For this exercise choose Open a BK Case (External).

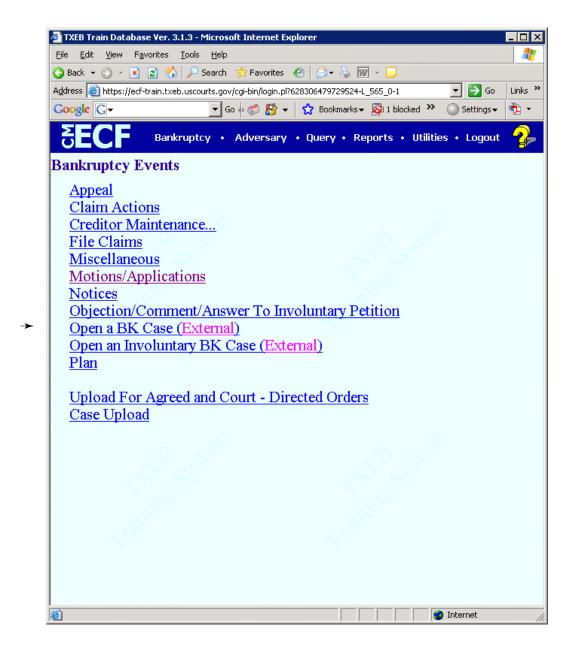


Figure 2

The following screen (Figure 3) contains pertinent statistical data.

- → Office select the appropriate office (Beaumont, Lufkin, Marshall, Paris, Sherman, Texarkana, Tyler). The "office" selection is determined by the "county" in which the debtor lives See county/office listing attached as Exhibit A
- → Case Type the systems defaults to "BK" for Bankruptcy Case
- → <u>Chapter</u> select the appropriate chapter
- → <u>Joint Petition</u> system defaults to "no", change to "yes" if filing a joint petition
- → <u>Deficiencies</u> system defaults to "no" leave the default as "no" even if filing an emergency petition without schedules and statements

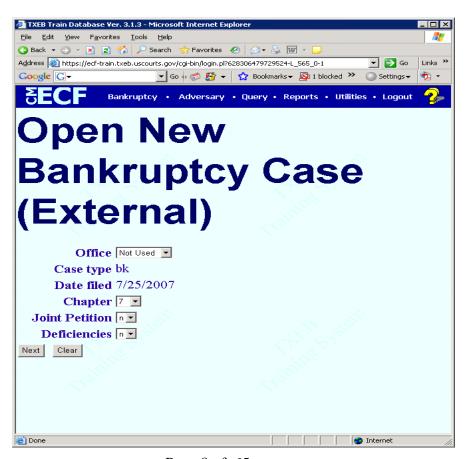


Figure 3

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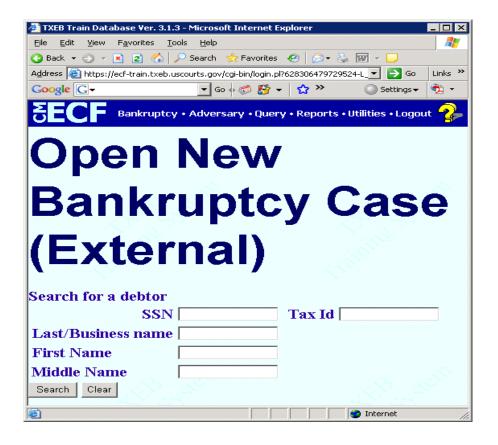


Figure 4

The "search for a party" screen appears (Figure 4). This screen allows the filer to search for the debtor by Name, Social Security Number or Tax Identification Number. Unless the debtor has filed previously, their name will not be found.

Search Hints:

Searching is case sensitive. (Smith, not smith)

Try alternate search clues if your first search is not successful

Partial names can be entered

The entire business name is stored in the Last/Business name field

Include punctuation (O'Brien)

An asterisk (*) is a wild card which may be used with search strings

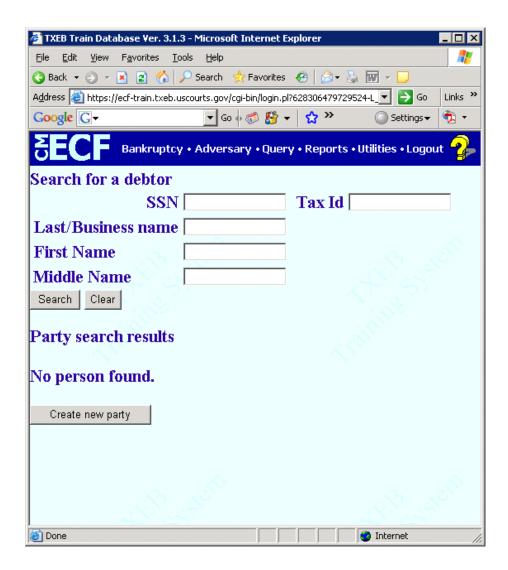
The asterisk (*) should not be used by itself as it will search all records in the database

Note:

If the designated party was already in the database, the Party Search Results screen would provide a listing of parties matching your search criteria. In that situation you would select the party by highlighting the name with your mouse and click [Select Name From List].

If the designated party was not found, click on [Create New Party]

If the name/social security search did not produce any results, select [Create New Party] to add debtor/joint debtor.

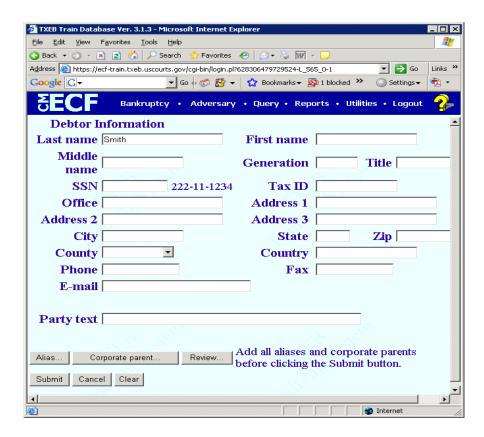


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- → "Party Information" screen appears (Figure 5)...
- → Enter the debtor's **Name** and **Address** information in the appropriate boxes
- Select the debtor's **County** of residence (you must select the county which matches the "office" chosen on the first screen during the initial opening of the case)

 (You can type the first letter of the county for a faster search)
- → It is not necessary to submit phone number, fax number, or e-mail.
- → If the party has an alias, click on the [ALIAS] button & add alias information. You can enter up to (5) alias records. Alias role types include aka, dba, fdba, fka

Figure 5



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Statistical Data screen appears (Figure 6).

- Select the "**type of debtor**" by clicking in the appropriate box
- **Fee Status" options are "Paid", "Installment", "Fee Not Paid", "IFP Filing Fee Waived"
- → Designate the "Nature of Debt" as consumer or business
- → Choose "yes" or "no" for **Asset Notice designation**
- → Select the range for **Estimated Creditors**
- → Select the range for **Estimated Assets**
- → Select the range for **Estimated Debts**

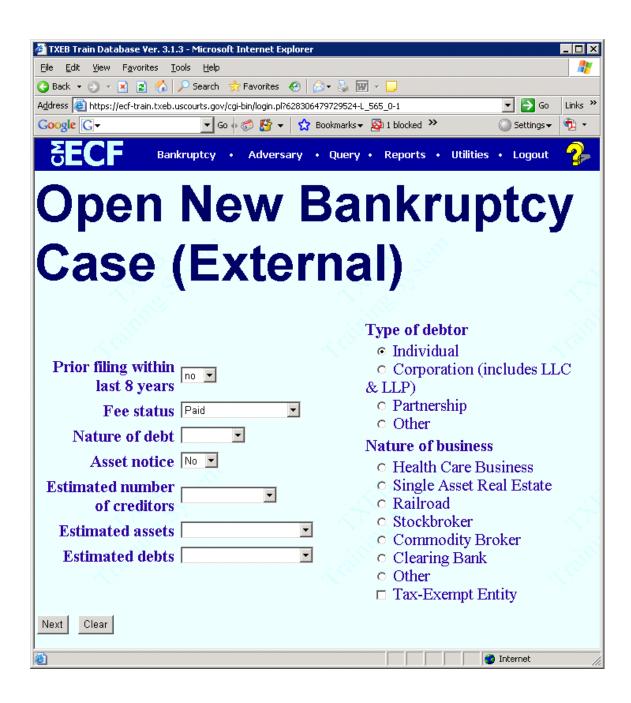


Figure 6

(Step 8) **PDFs** The PDF Document selection screen will appear (Figure 7) (repeatedly regardless of what is being filed with the Court). Think of it as the "browse screen". Click the [Browse] bar and locate the folder where the pdf has been saved. Highlight the pdf file name; right clicking of the mouse will allow the pdf to be opened and reviewed. It is important in the beginning to review all pdf's before submitting to the Court to ensure its correctness.

♬ NOTE: (Step 6 & 7 do not apply for this exercise)

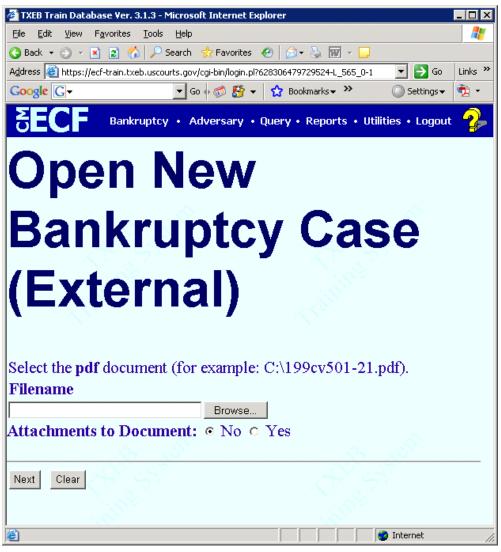


Figure 7

Click [Next]. Click [Next] on the following screen. If the petition is being filed without schedules, (Figure 8) change the "with" to "without".

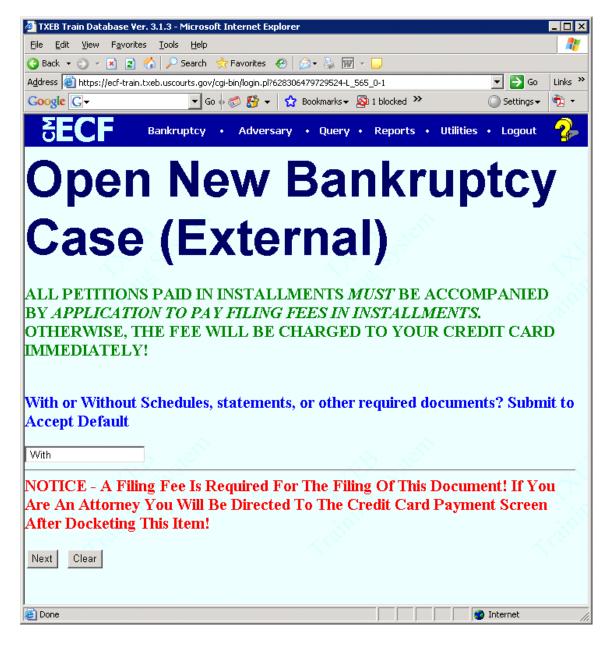


Figure 8

Step 11) The "Docket Text: Final Text" screen displays (Figure 9). **THIS IS YOUR LAST WARNING BEFORE SUBMITTING THIS TRANSACTION.** "**ATTENTION**" in red letters is the flag to the filer that clicking [Next] (see note below) will file a given document with the Court. An e-mail will be generated and sent to all electronic filing parties in a case at the submission of this screen.

Note: To abort or restart the transaction, click [Bankruptcy] on the CM/ECF Main Menu Bar. Although this can be done at any time, this is your last opportunity to change the event.

If the final docket text is correct, click on the [Next] button to continue.

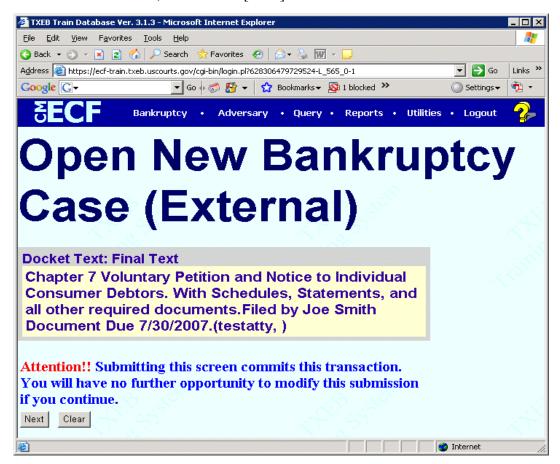


Figure 9

(Step 12) **The Notice of Electronic Filing** screen is then generated (Figure 10). The Notice of Electronic Filing is the verification that the filing has been sent electronically to the Court's database and certifies that the petition is now an official Court document. The Notice of Electronic Filing is the equivalent of a file marked copy in the "paper world". It can be saved as a text document, a pdf, or printed.

Note: Remember to mail the appropriate <u>Declaration For Electronic Filing</u> to the Court at this time. See Local Rules for details. (Appendix 5005)

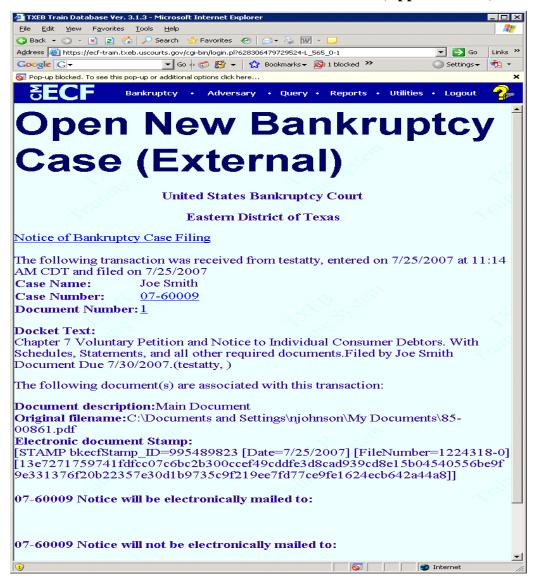


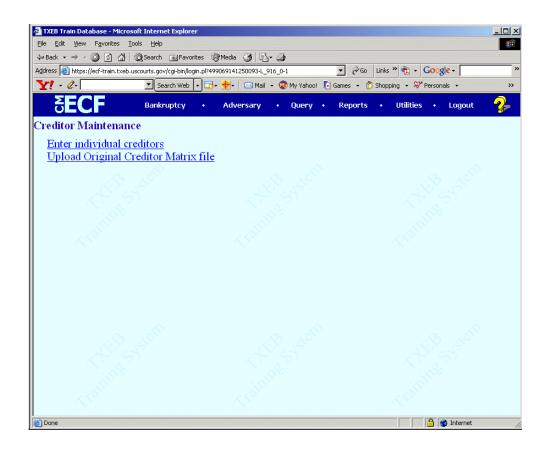
Figure 10

Uploading a Matrix

Repeat Steps 1-4

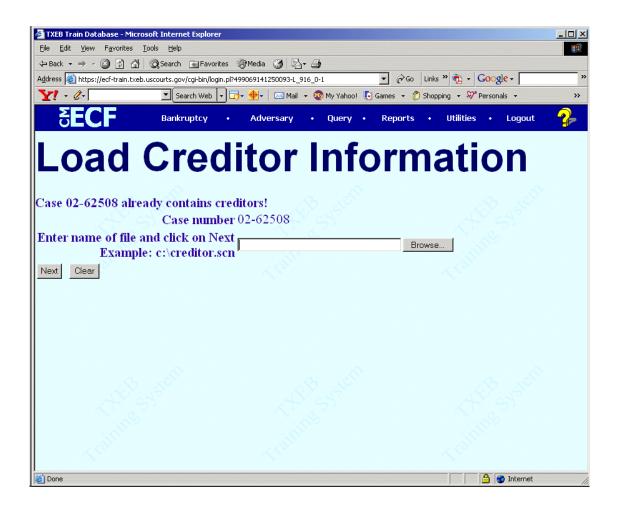
- (1) Create Document
- (2) Save as text document (the one exception to saving as a pdf)
- (3) Log In to System
- (4) Select Bankruptcy from Main Menu Bar

(Step 5) **Sub-Menu Categories** Choose the Creditor Maintenance option. Click Upload Original Creditor Matrix file. (Step 6) Enter the **case number** on the next screen.

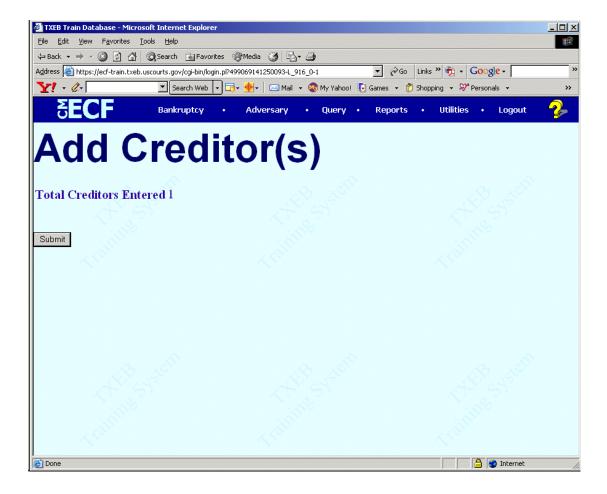


(Step 7) **does not apply** to this exercise. (Step8) **PDF's** Click the Browse button and find the mailing matrix. Open to ensure correctness of document and insert into the empty field. This is the only time a text document will be submitted to the Court. An amended matrix will be submitted as a pdf. Click [Next].

NOTE: THE ORIGINAL MATRIX IS SAVED AND UPLOADED AS A TEXT DOCUMENT ONLY!!!!



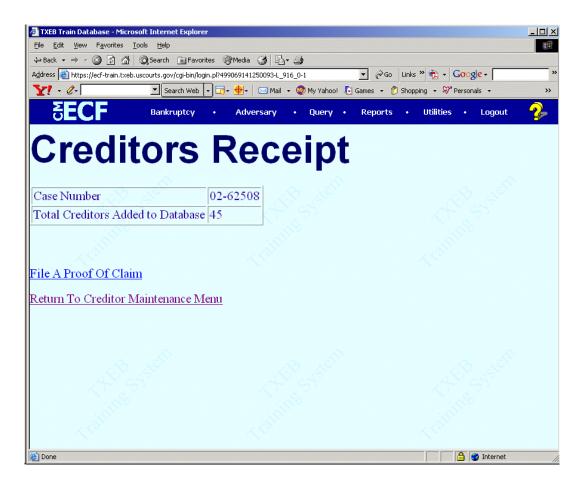
The screen below should indicate a number of Total Creditors Entered. Click [Submit].



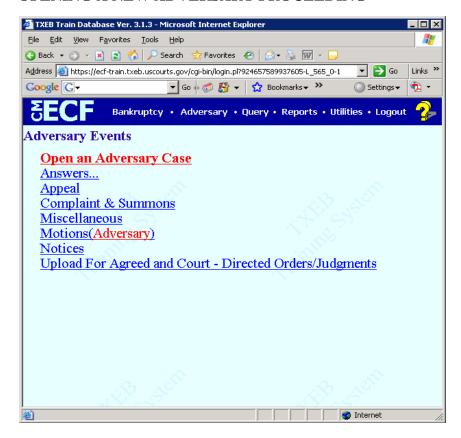
The screen below will appear. The matrix is now uploaded into the Court's database. Unlike other transmissions to the Court, a notice of electronic filing will not be created for the external user.

Steps 9-12 do not apply to this exercise.

Finally, click Bankruptcy, Miscellaneous, and Matrix(Uploaded Electronically) to indicate to the Court that a matrix has been uploaded. No pdf is required. Simply follow the screens.

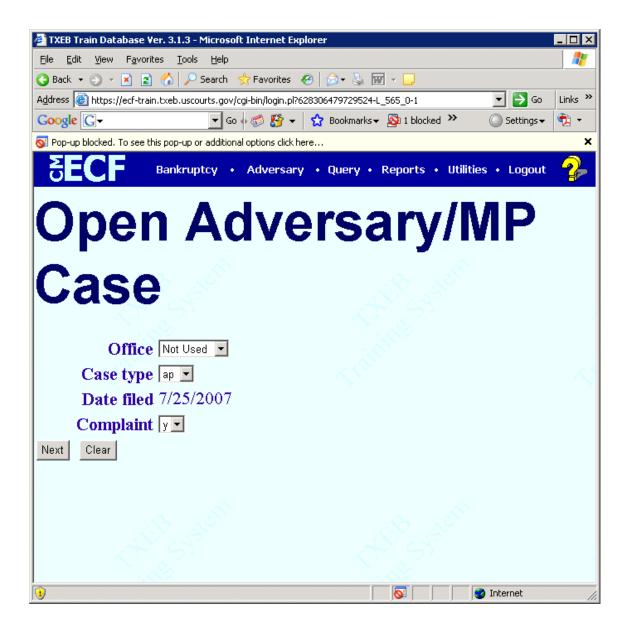


B. OPENING A NEW ADVERSARY PROCEEDING



- → Repeat Steps 1-3 (Create Pleading/Print to PDF File/Log In To CM/ECF)
- → Click on Adversary on the CM/ECF Main Menu Bar
- → Select Open an Adversary Case (Figure 11)
- → Select Appropriate "Office" (Division)
- **Case Type** (defaults to "ap" accept default)
- **→ Complaint** system defaults to "yes"
- →Click [Next]

Figure 11



The **Party Search** screen appears (Figure 12)

Search for the Plaintiff(s) by name or social security number.

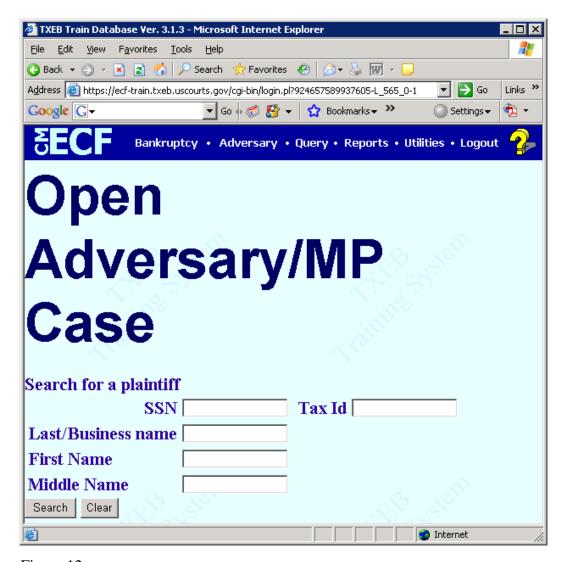


Figure 12

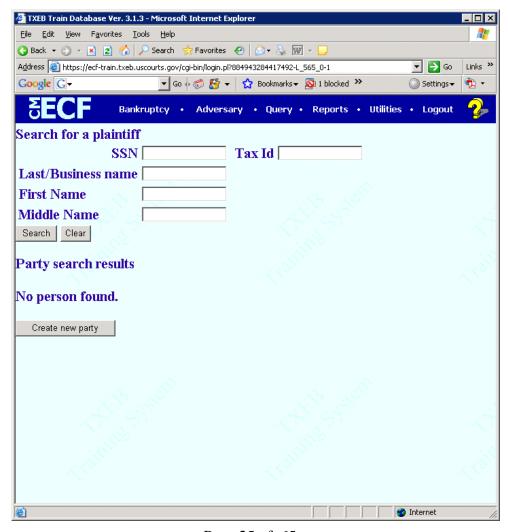
The Search Results screen appears (Figure 13).

♬ Note:

If the designated party was already in the database, the Party Search Results screen would provide a listing of parties matching your search criteria. In that situation you would select the party by highlighting the name with your mouse and click [Select Name From List].

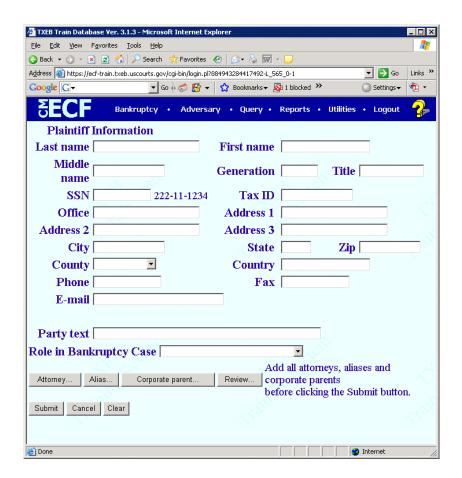
If the designated party was not found, click on [Create New Party]

Figure 13



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- ➤ Enter the Plaintiff's Name
- → Click the **Role in Bankruptcy Case** and select the role.
- Click on the [Attorney] button on the Party Information screen (The plaintiff's attorney MUST add himself/herself to the system when filing an adversary proceeding). This is an exception. In all other circumstances the system will "know" your identity by the act of logging into CM-ECF.



The **Attorney Search** screen (Figure 14) allows you to search for an attorney record by Bar Id Debtor Last Name

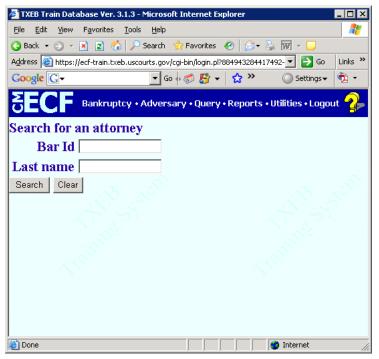
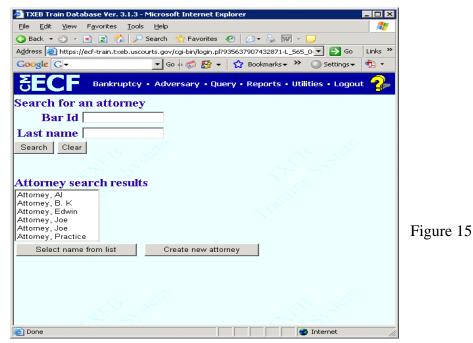


Figure 14

The **Attorney Search** results (Figure 15) will display all matches for the search clue. If your name appears, simply highlight it with your mouse and click on [Select Name From List] or select [Create New Party] if no matches were found.



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The **Attorney Information** screen appears: (Figure 16) Fill in appropriate information and click [Add attorney].

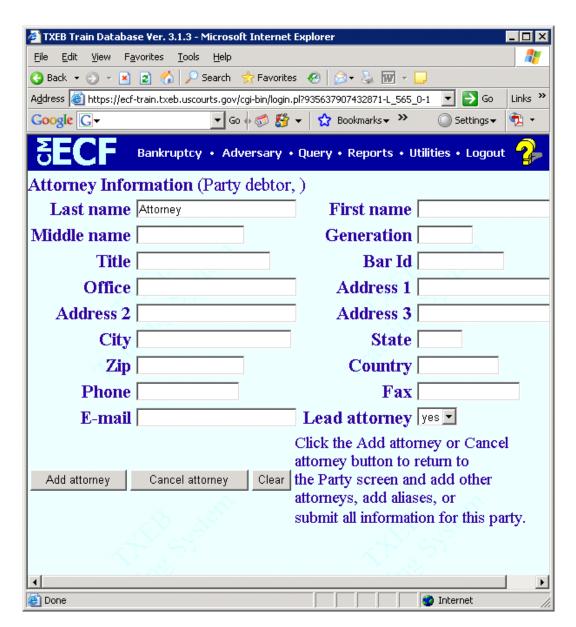


Figure 16

The **Party Information** screen appears (Figure 17). At this time you could click on the [Review] button to verify the information or click on [Submit].

When the Party Information screen appears again (Figure 18), continue to add parties (i.e., additional plaintiffs or defendant, etc.). Once completed, click [Submit].

Note: Do not add an attorney for the Defendant(s).

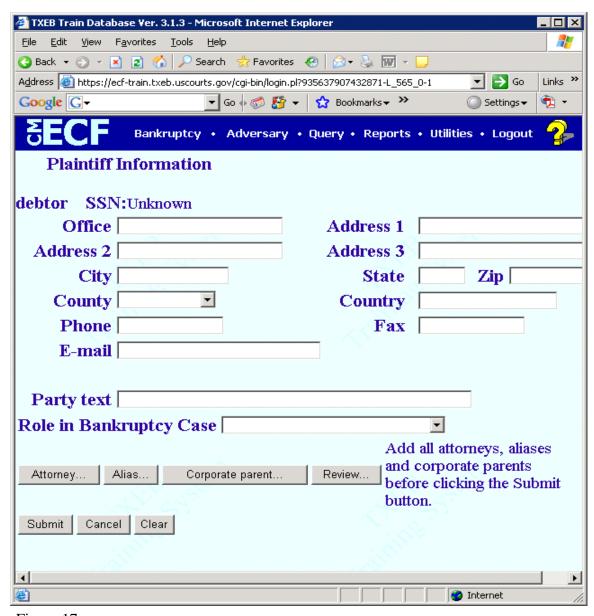


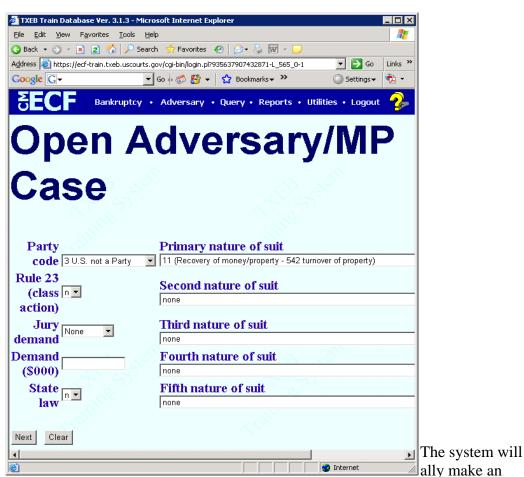
Figure 17



Figure 18

- → For **Party Code** make the appropriate selection
 - 1. U. S. is a Plaintiff
 - 2. U. S. is a Defendant
 - 3. U. S. Not a Party in the Case (DEFAULT)
- **→** Select Nature of Suit
- **Note:** When selecting the Nature of Suit, if the complaint alleges multiple claims for relief and if one is a \$727 Objection to Discharge, always select "424 (OBJ/Revocation Discharge 727) as the Primary Nature of Suit.
- → Rule 23 / Jury Demand/Demand accept defaults
- → When this screen is correct, click [Next]

Figure 19



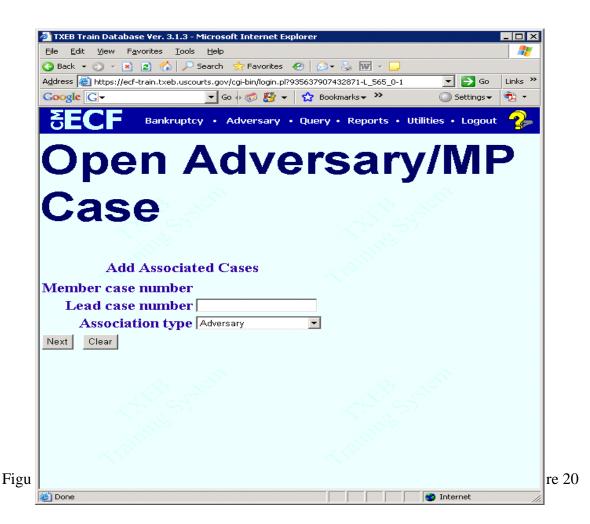
Note: automatic

entry into the legal case as to the filing of an adversary proceeding. All matters relating to

the adversary case should be filed exclusively into the docket of the adversary **with exception** to an <u>Application to Compromise Settlement Agreement and a Motion to Defer Payment.</u> (these two pleadings are always filed in the legal case)

Related Cases screen appears (Figure 20)

- •Enter the **Lead Bankruptcy Case Number** in yy-nnnnn format (i.e., 04-10001)
- •Select the default of Adversary as the **Association Type**
- •Click [Next] to continue



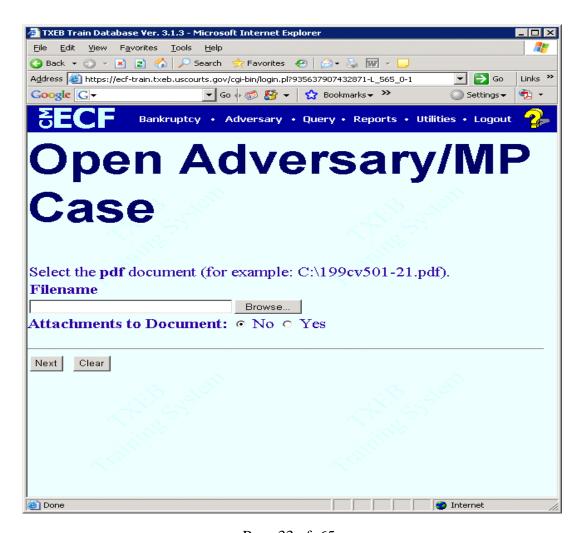
Note: (Step 6 & 7 do not apply for this exercise)

The PDF Document selection screen appears (Figure 21)

(Step 8) This screen will appear repeatedly regardless of what is being filed with the Court. Think of it as the "browse screen". Click the Browse bar and locate the folder where the pdf has been saved. Highlight the pdf file name; right clicking of the mouse will allow the pdf to be opened and reviewed. It is important in the beginning to review all pdf's before submitting to the Court to ensure its correctness.

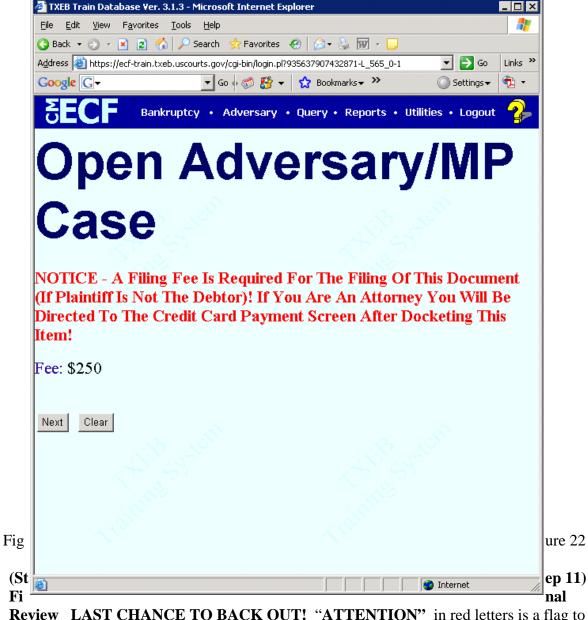
Note: A Civil Cover Sheet and one (1) summons per defendant must be submitted as attachments to the complaint - (III(A) (9) of Appendix 5005

Figure 21



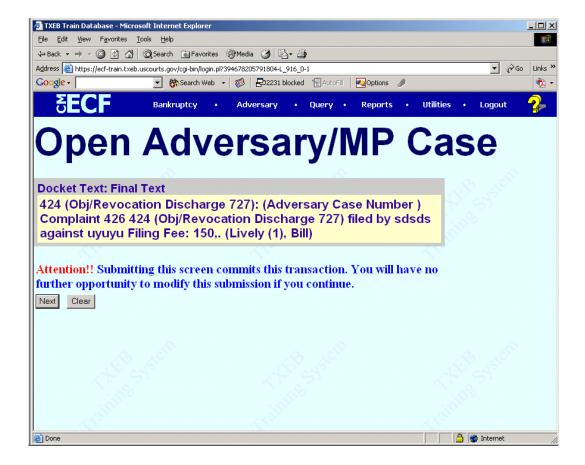
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→ Click [Next] to continue



Review LAST CHANCE TO BACK OUT! "ATTENTION" in red letters is a flag to the filer that clicking [Next] will file a given document with the Court. An e-mail will be generated and sent to all electronic filing parties in a case at the submission of this screen.

Click [Next].



(Step 12) **Notice of Electronic Filing** (Figure 23) This screen is the equivalent of a file marked copy in the "paper world". It can be saved as a text document, a pdf, or printed.

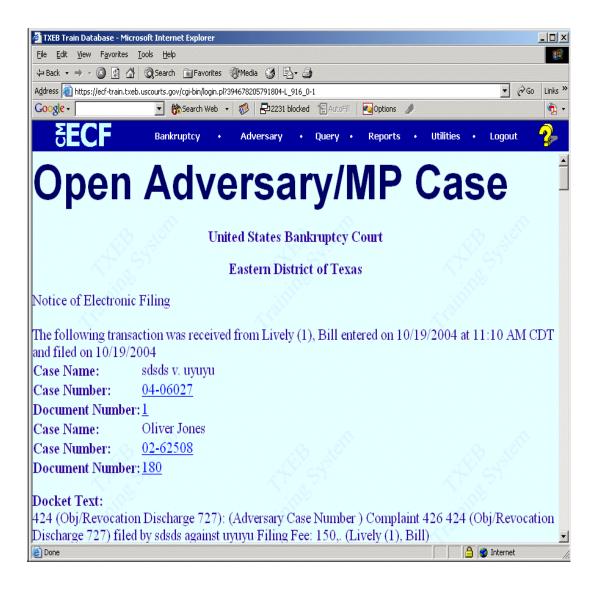


Figure 23

AMENDED COMPLAINTS, ANSWERS, COUNTERCLAIM, CROSSCLAIM, THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT & AMENDED ANSWERS

- To file an AMENDED COMPLAINT, select the event "Amended Complaint" in the "Complaint & Summons" category and file in the same manner you would file any other document in the ECF system.
- To file an ANSWER TO COMPLAINT, CROSSCLAIM or THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT, select the "Answer" category and "complaint, 3rd, cross, counter". Only select the pleading(s) to which the answer being filed responds to.
- COUNTERCLAIMS, CROSSCLAIMS & 3RD PARTY COMPLAINTS may be filed as part of the initial answer to an initial complaint. They may not be filed as part of an AMENDED answer.
- AMENDED ANSWER TO COMPLAINT the CM/ECF program is designed to keep up with the filing of an answer to complaint so that defaults can be tracked. Consequently, it permits only ONE answer for a defendant to be matched to the complaint. Once a complaint has been answered by a party, a user attempting to file another answer for the same party will receive a warning that there are "no unanswered complaints", therefore, the AMENDED ANSWER event is set up in the "Miscellaneous" sub-category under the Adversary menu.

C. FILING A MOTION

Key to Success: All motions are constructed exactly in the same manner. Therefore, being able to file one motion gives one the knowledge to file any motion!

Follow the 12-Step Program...

(Step1) Create the document

(Step 2) **Print to PDF**. We recommend the purchase of Adobe Acrobat. The current price is approximately \$300.00.

(Step 3) Log in,

(Step 4) Click Bankruptcy or Adversary,

(Step 5) From the Bankruptcy/Adversary Event Menu - select Motions/Applications

(Step 6) Enter the **case number** and click [Next]. Verify Debtor's Name. A drop down menu will appear. All menus in CM-ECF are alphabetized. One can scroll down using the down arrow, grab the scroll bar or by using a key stroke (such as typing "r" on the keyboard to find "relief from automatic stay"). Choose the type of desired motion, i.e., Relief From Stay.

(Step 7) **Parties** - Choose from the existing parties or create new party. When creating a new party a search must be performed. If that party is not found the filer will be prompted a second time to create new party. **IMPORTANT:** On the following screen **DO NOT** fill in an address for the new party. Simply change the Role from debtor to the correct identification if the filer is someone other than the debtor. Click [Submit]. The next screen will automatically have the newly created party highlighted. Click [Next]. A screen will appear stating: The following attorney/party associations do not exist for this case.

Please check which associations should be created for this case: YYY Auto Parts, (cr:cr) represented by Lively, Bill (397)(aty)

Click the box that will appear to the left of the creditor. In this case that would be YYY Auto Parts. The system knows the attorney filer by their login. By making the association all correspondence for that creditor will be directed to the attorney at their physical address. Click [Next]

(Step 8) **PDFs** - Think of this as the browse screen. Click [Browse] and find the pdf saved on your computer. After verifying the pdf as the desired document, open the pdf and this will insert the pdf file name into the empty field. Below the field is a statement:

Attachments to Document: No Yes

It defaults to [No]. Change it by clicking [Yes] and then [Next].

𝔻 Note:

ALL PROPOSED ORDERS ARE ATTACHED AS SEPARATE PDF'S TO EVERY MOTION FILED IN THE EASTERN DISTRICT

♬ Note:

Certificates of Service are submitted as part of the motion (the main pdf) and should be the last pages of the motion.

If attachments are being submitted, three steps are required on the attachment screen (Figure 24)

- → Click [**Browse**] and open the proposed order.
- Then under **Type** choose **Proposed Order**. No text is necessary under Description. Filing an exhibit is one of the few times when both Type and Description fields will contain text, i.e., Exhibit......Deed of Trust.
- → Click [Add to List]. The Filename field will become empty again allowing more attachments to be added. There is no set limit. Be sure to limit documents to 40 pages or less. Pdf's should not exceed 2mg in size.
- → Click [Next].

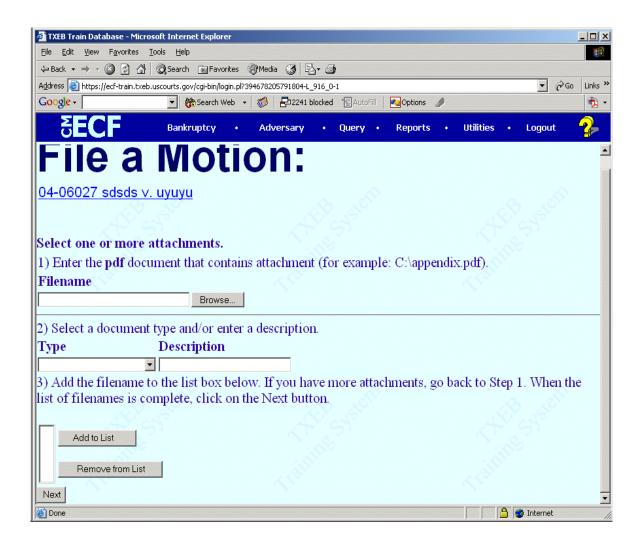


Figure 24

(Step 9) does not apply to this exercise

(Step 10) **Modify/Confirm Docket Text** (Figure 25) - A drop down menu appears before the word "Motion" to add such prefixes as Agreed, First, Second, etc. The field in white allows text to be inserted as necessary. Generally speaking, the filing of motions seldom require additional text.

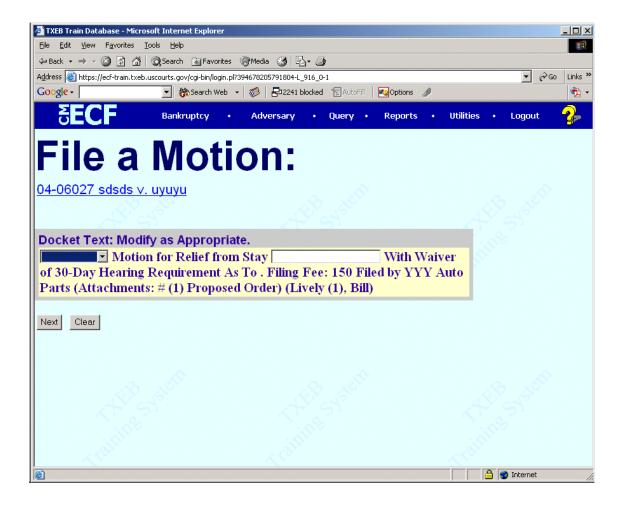


Figure 25

(Step 11) **Final Review** (Figure 26) Clicking [Next] will file the motion with the Court.

(Step 12) **Notice of Electronic Filing** the filer will be prompted to pay the filing fee now or continue, allowing payment to occur at a later time. This is helpful when filing multiple documents requiring fees. Fees can be made at any time through Utilities, Internet Fees Due. This screen is the equivalent of a file-marked copy in the "paper world".

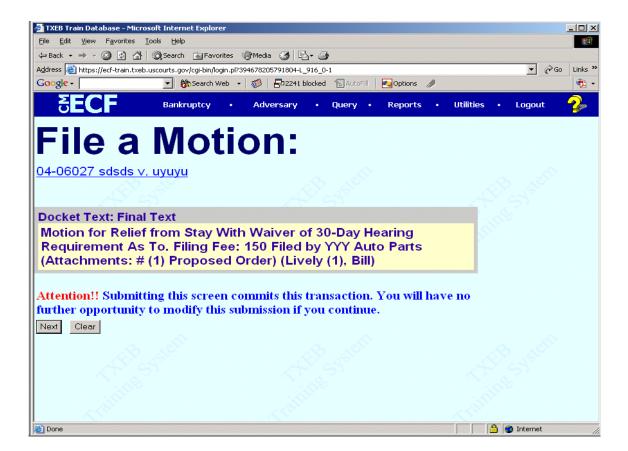


Figure 26

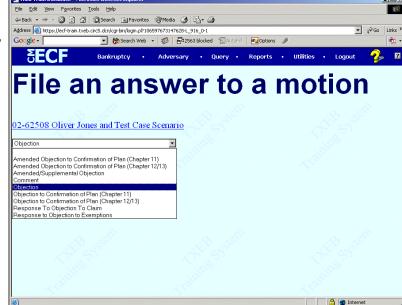
D. FILING AN OBJECTION TO A MOTION

- → (Step 1) Create PDF
- → (Step 2) Print to PDF
- → (Step 3) Log In to CM/ECF
- → (Step 4) From Main Menu, Select Bankruptcy or Adversary
- → (Step 5) Under Bankruptcy Sub-Menu select [**Objection/Comment**] You have (2) options:
 - (1) Reference An Existing Document (used when objecting to a motion or other pleading)
 - (2) Involuntary Answer to Involuntary Petition

Under Adversary Sub-Menu select [Answers] You have (2) options:

- (1) Motion/Application (used when objecting to a motion/application in the adversary proceeding)
- (2) Complaint, 3rd, Cross & Counter (used when filing an answer to complaint, 3rd party complaint, cross-complaint or counter-complaint)
- → (Step 6) Insert the **Case Number**. Click [Next]. A drop down menu will appear with several options (Figure 27). Choose [Objection].





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(Step 7) **Parties** Choose the correct party or create a new party. If a new party is created the system will highlight that party within the party screen. Click [Next]. The next screen will ask the user to make the relationship between the new party and the filing attorney. Click the box and then [Next].

(Step 8) **PDF's** Click the browse bar, find and insert the corresponding pdf into the empty field. Click [Next].

Note: PDF's can be viewed within a folder by highlighting, right clicking, and open. Once the pdf is highlighted, clicking open will insert the pdf into the empty field. Double clicking the pdf will also insert the pdf into the empty field on the "Browse Screen".

Note: IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED YOU VIEW PDF'S BEFORE INSERTING THEM INTO THE EMPTY FIELD.

(Step 9) **Related Documents** On the next screen (Figure 28), click the box to the left of "Refer to existing event(s)".

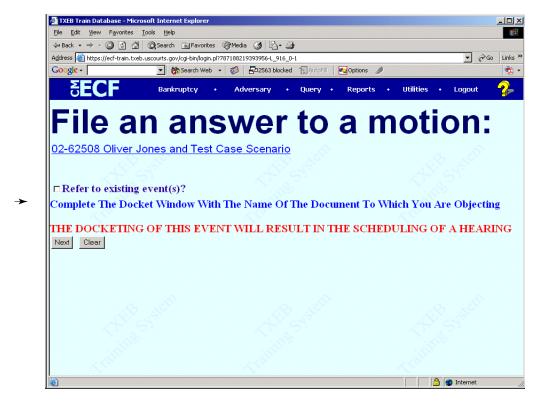


Figure 28

On the screen below (Figure 29), select the category to which you are objecting, i.e., motion and click [Next]. All motions in that case will appear on the next screen. Click the box to the left of the corresponding motion.

♬ NOTE: IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU LINK YOUR OBJECTION TO THE APPROPRIATE PLEADING.

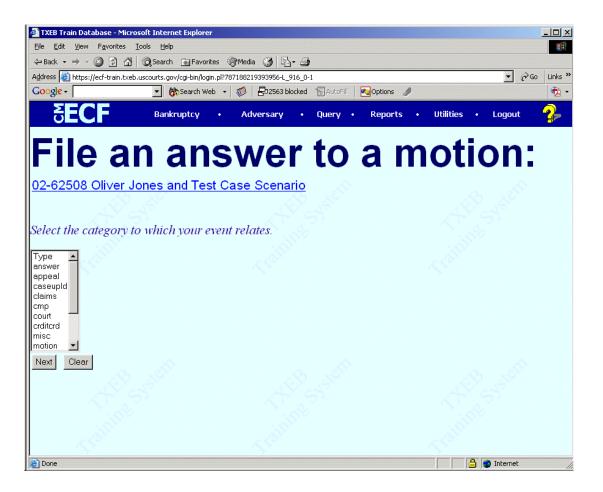


Figure 29

- (Step 10) **Modify/Confirm Docket Text** A drop down menu of prefixes appears (Figure 30) before the word "objection". Use as appropriate. An empty field appears after the word "objection". Text of your choice can be entered as needed (See Note Below). OClick [Next].
- Note: It is not necessary to insert or "repeat" the title of the pleading you are objecting to because your objection has been <u>linked</u> to the applicable pleading (which will be green in the text). The final text should simply state "Objection Filed by MMM Auto Parts (RE: Related Document [187] Motion for Relief from Stay......"

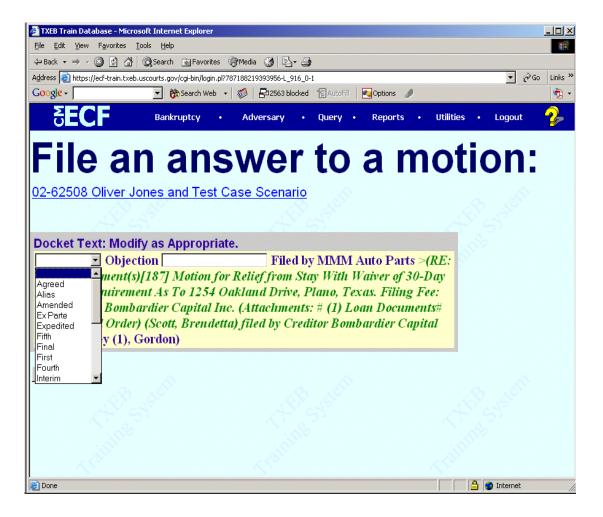


Figure 30

(Step 11) **Final Review** (Figure 31) The text on this screen is identical to Step 10. Clicking [Next] will commit this transaction to the court and will appear on the corresponding docket as filed.

(Step 12) **Notice of Electronic Filing** Remember, the last screen you see after completing the filing of a document is equivalent of a file-marked copy. You must decide how to save this information.

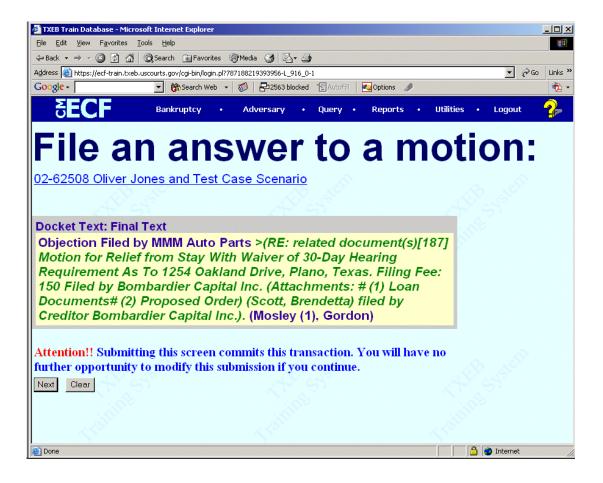


Figure 31

E. FILING A NOTICE OF APPEARANCE

Repeat Steps 1 through 6.

- 1. Create Pleading
- 2. Print to PDF File
- 3. Log In
- 4. Select Bankruptcy or Adversary From Main Menu
- 5. Select Applicable Sub-Menu Category [Notices]
- 6. Enter Case Number

Highlight Notice of Appearance from the drop down menu (Figure 32) and click [Next].

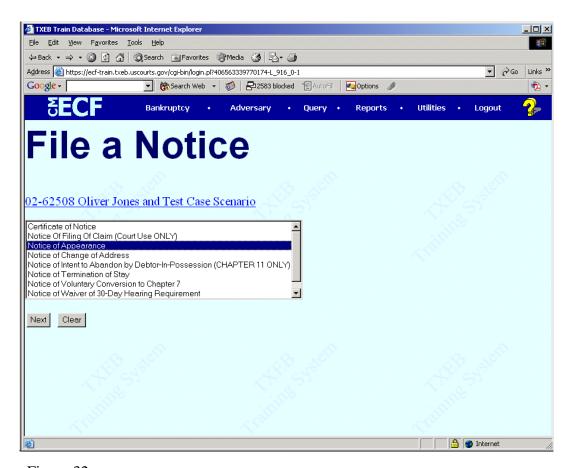


Figure 32

- (Step 7) **Parties** Select from the list or create new party. When searching, if a party is not found, you will be prompted to "create new party". The screen below will appear.
- **Note**: Always insert c/o attorney's name on address to ensure notice will be sent to the attorney's address and not the physical address of the creditor. The Role Type must be changed from Debtor to Creditor (Figure 33)

Click [Submit]. The party will appear highlighted on the next screen.

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Pop-up blocked. To see this	; pop-up or additional option	ns click here	×		
ECF	Bankruptcy • Adv	ersary • Query • Reports • Uti	lities • Logout 🔧		
Party Information					
Last name ZZZ A	uto	First name			
Middle		Generation [Γitle [
name '	<u> </u>	(25 10)			
SSN	222-11-1	234 Tax ID			
Office		Address 1 c/o Joe Attor	ney		
Address 2 100 S.	. Broadway	Address 3			
City Tyler		State TX	Zip 75702		
County	▼	Country			
Phone		Fax			
E-mail					
Role Credit	or (cr:cr)	▼			
Party text					
Submit Cancel Cl	ear				
7.7	36				

33

Click [Next]. On the screen below (Figure 34), check the box next to the creditor's name to make the association with the attorney within the database. Click [Next]

Note: Use the Certificate of Notice event when filing any "notice of" i.e., notice of rescheduled 341 hearing or notice of deposition.

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Figure 34

- (Step 8) **PDFs** Click browse, find and insert the correct pdf. The following screen below will appear (Figure 35). Insert your name. Click [Next].
- (Step 9) **Related Documents** Does not apply for this exercise.
- (Step 10) **Modify/Confirm Docket Text** Additional text will rarely be necessary. Click [Next].
- (Step 11) **Final Review** The text will appear again. Click [Next].
- (Step 12) **Notice of Electronic Filing** The "file-marked" copy of the electronic world.

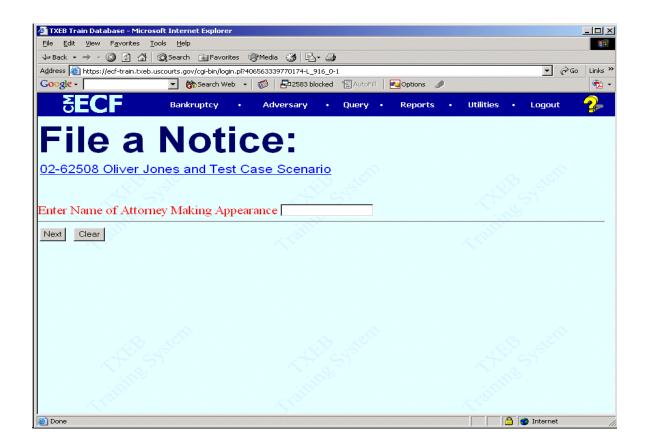


Figure 35

F. FILING A PROOF OF CLAIM

Repeat steps 1 through 5.

- (1) Create Document
- (2) Print to PDF
- (3) Log In to System
- (4) Select Bankruptcy from Main Menu Bar
- (5) Select "File a Claim" from Sub-Category Menu

(Step 6) **Parties** Enter the case number and the creditor. (Figure 36) Click [Next].

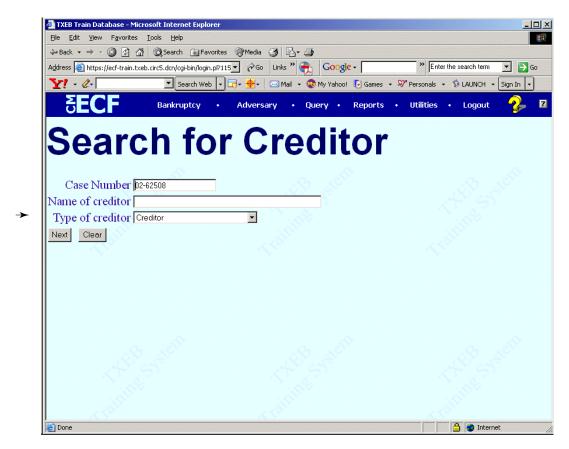


Figure 36

If the creditor is not yet in the case, the screen below will appear. Click [Add Creditor] (Figure 37) and on the following screen click [Next].

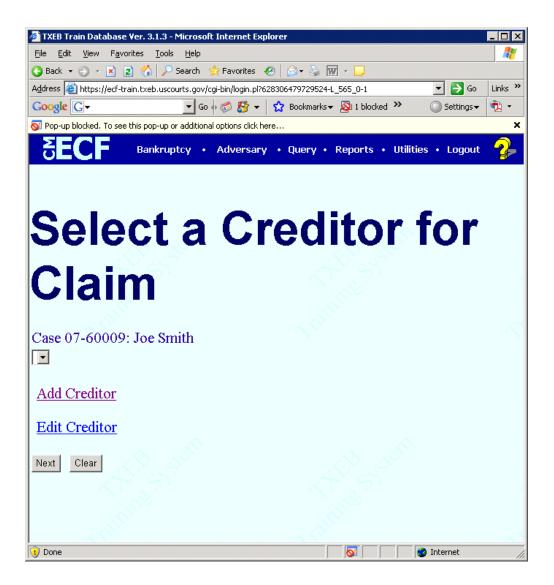
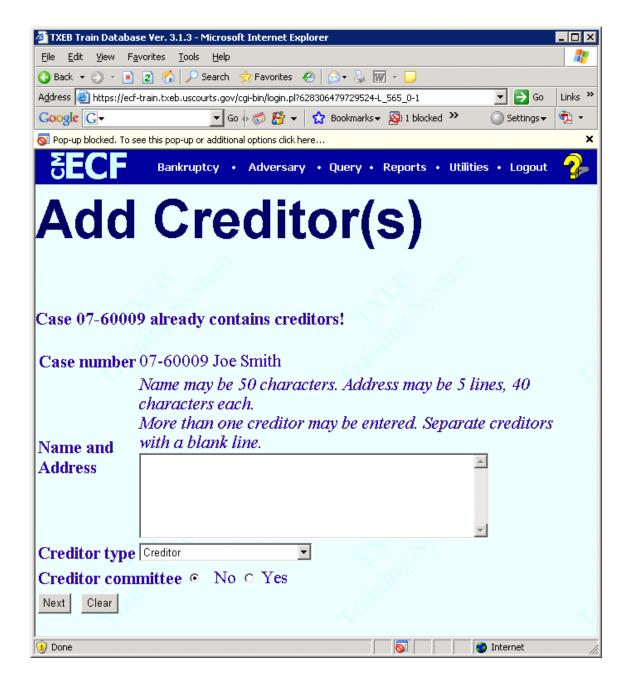
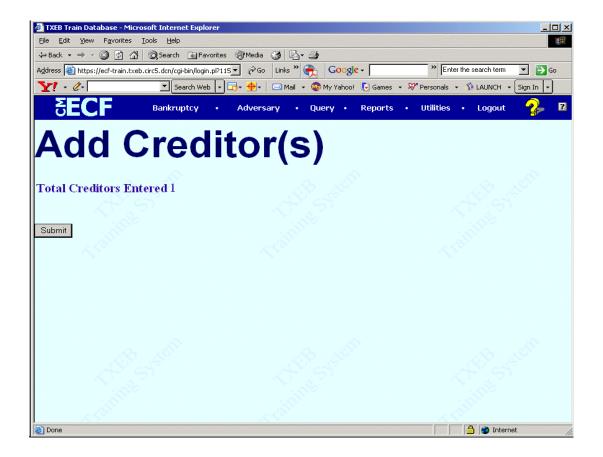


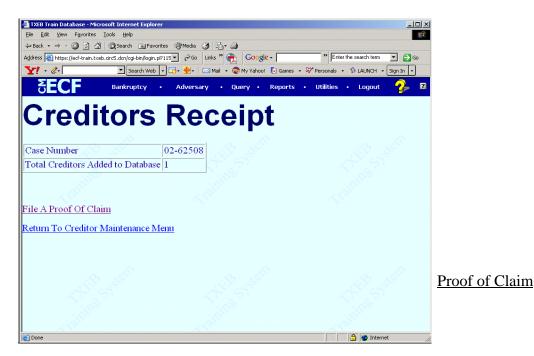
Figure 37

The screen below will appear. Insert the name and address of the creditor. Change the radio (Figure 38) button that defaults to "Continue To Enter" to "Last Entry". Click [Next].



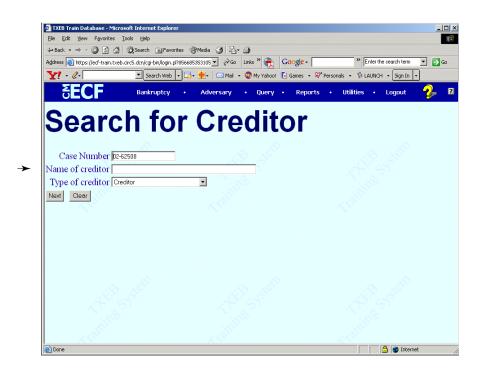
The screen below should indicate the creditor was added to the case. Click [Submit].





Click File a

You must search for the creditor again. Click [Next]. The creditor will appear highlighted on the next screen. Click [Next].



Insert the necessary figures.(Figure 39) Do not use \$ signs or commas. Bypass the Late and Status fields. The Remarks and Description fields may be used but are rarely needed. Click [Next].

Note: A pdf containing the proof of claim will still need to be filed.

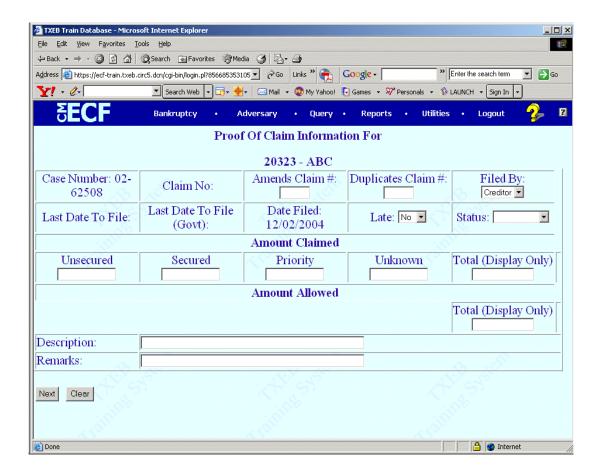


Figure 39

(Step 8) **PDFs** Find and insert the pdf into the empty field.(Figure 40) If filing an attachment change the No to Yes and click [Next]. On the following screen, the filer will be prompted to browse for the pdf, choose the type or use the description field to identify the attachment, and

then add to the list. This is identical to the process of attaching a proposed order to a motion. Click [Next]

 \square Note: Steps 9,10,11 to not apply.

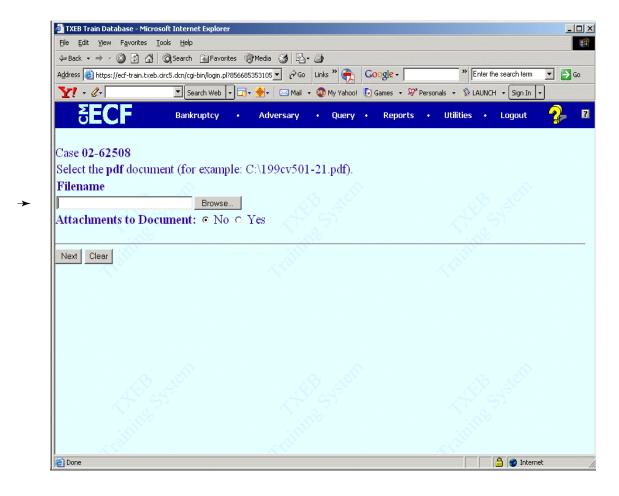
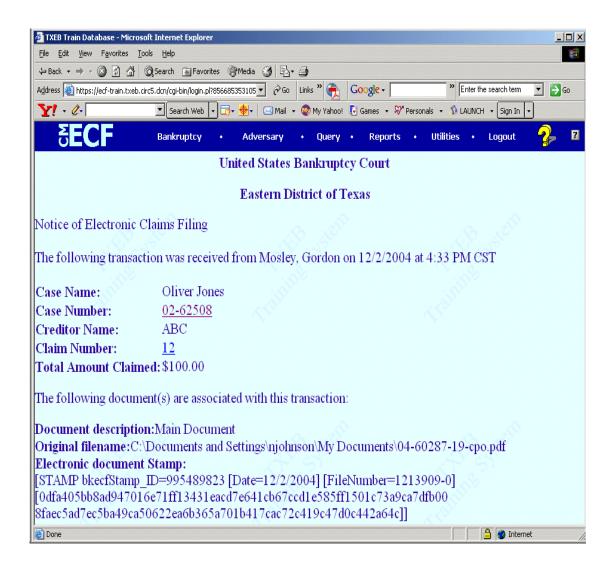


Figure 40

(Step 12) Notice of Electronic Filing



G. UPLOAD FOR AGREED AND COURT-DIRECTED PROPOSED ORDERS

This system is used for Proposed Agreed Orders being submitted to the Court:

1. Prior to a Scheduled Hearing (parties reach an agreement prior to a scheduled hearing)

- **2. At the Direction of the Court** (as a result of a hearing held at which time parties were instructed by the Judge to submit an agreed order)
- **3. At the Clerk's Direction** (proposed orders submitted at the request of the Clerk's office party should also notify Clerk when order is uploaded)
- 4. Proposed Pre-Trial Orders
- 5. Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law
- **6. Proposed Agreed Order Requesting Continuance** (of a scheduled hearing)

♬ NOTE: THIS SYSTEM IS NOT FOR PROPOSED DEFAULT ORDERS

From the Bankruptcy or Adversary Main Menu:

- → Select Upload For Agreed and Court-Directed Orders
- → Select Upload Order
- → Enter Case Number, Press [Next]
- → Enter Related Document Number (the document # of the related matter for which the agreed order is being submitted)
- Note: If at this time you do not know the document # of the related matter, click [Next]and the system will provide a category listing (i.e., motion/claims/miscellaneous, etc.); select the applicable category, then select the applicable pleading by placing a check in the appropriate box.
- → Select the Order Type
- → Enter Date of Hearing (if applicable)
- → Browse for PDF to upload Proposed Agreed Order
- → Click [Next] to submit

H. REPORTS

Each report below will require entry of a PACER login/password. One login/password will work for every district in the United States, though one must log on through the particular website that has jurisdiction of that case.



I. UTILITIES

Internet Payments Due:

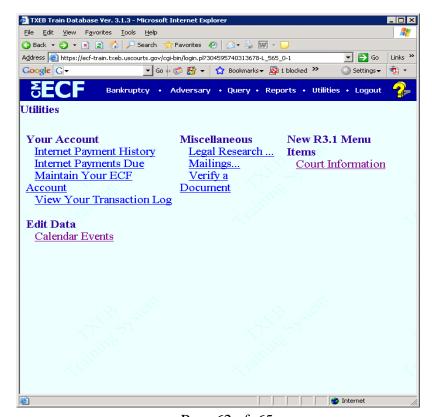
Filing fees may be paid from this location at any time. The system will maintain your current balance (See Internet Credit Card Manual located on our website under Electronic Filing Information for details).

Maintain Your ECF Account:

Changes to personal information: phone number, address, email address, or password should be made here. The Clerk's Office no longer requires the filing of an attorney address change. The responsibility of maintaining accurate personal information rests with the attorney. The login to CM-ECF should never be changed. Passwords may be changed at will.

Verify A Document:

In the event that a Notice of Electronic Filing was not saved, a filer may use the Verify a Document option to obtain pertinent information. The case number and document number will be required to complete the process.



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III. HELPFUL HINTS

- 1. When in doubt, call the clerk's office before proceeding; that will save you and us time.
- 2. Check our website on a regular basis for updates, announcements, and useful resources.
- 3. Maintain a working knowledge of the Federal and Local Rules of Procedure for Bankruptcy Law.
- 4. Click on the yellow? in the upper right hand corner for helpful information at any time. The information will only pertain to that screen.
- 5. Use the control f function to search for key words or phrases in large docket reports.
- 6. To minimize browser malfunctions, click Tools, Internet Options, Delete Cookies, Delete Files on a regular basis. This will prevent various menu selections from being eliminated from a given screen. Click the Settings bar and set it to Every Visit To The Page.
- 7. Disable all pop-up blockers before paying fees due. DO NOT USE THE BACK ARROW AT ANY TIME DURING THE PROCESS of paying fees.
- 8. All proposed orders are ATTACHED to motions, ONLY agreed orders and judgments are submitted using the Upload for Agreed and Court-Directed Orders Link on the main menu.
- 9. Call the ECF HelpDesk immediately upon discovery of or making an error. Call with other helpful hints not listed.
- 10. "Linking" is a term used by clerk's staff to describe the phrase, "Reference to an Existing Document". Be sure to link to the specific document in question, i.e., a withdrawal of an objection is linked to the objection, not the motion.
- 11. All drop down menus are alphabetized. One can use the down arrow, grab the scroll bar, or use a key stroke to find the desired event or caption.
- 12. Open and review all pdf files before transmitting to the court to ensure correctness.

IV. TROUBLESHOOTING

- 1. Only partial menus appear on computer screen. See #6 of helpful hints.
- 2. Unable to pay fees due. See #7 of helpful hints.
- 3. Unable to login to CM-ECF. Verify correct login is being used, i.e., PACER logins will fail when used to log into CM-ECF and vice versa.
- 4. System extremely slow. Periodically during the day slow periods will occur. The busiest time is between 2:30pm and 3:30pm. If conditions persist for a extended period of time, contact the ECF HelpDesk..
- 5. Not receiving e-mails from the clerk's office. Check with the ECF HelpDesk about possible system failure. The problem almost always exists with the external filer's internet provider.

EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

Beaumont Division	<u>Lufkin Division</u>	Marshall Division	
Chambers	Angelina	Camp	
Hardin	Houston	Cass	
Jasper	Nacogdoches	Harrison	
Jefferson	Polk	Marion	
Liberty	Sabine	Morris	
Newton	San Augustine	Upshur	
Orange	Shelby		
	Trinity		
	Tyler		

Texarkana Division	Tyler Division	Sherman Division
Bowie	Anderson	Collin
Franklin	Cherokee	Cooke
Red River	Gregg	Delta
Titus	Henderson	Denton
	Panola	Fannin
	Rains	Grayson
	Rusk	Hopkins
	Smith	Lamar
	Van Zandt	
	Wood	